Dear Js, 12/29/72

Urlets 24,25 with enclosures here today. Unlike usual practise, modification because we, too, have some kind of bugs, also rare with us, I've gone over clips. Skimmed those on BR murders. (Looks like Guste may be a man to watch.) Laid Hoppe + Baker aside for when I feel the need for a good laugh.

S-I 12/15, "Full Occupancy at Rault..." That is the same Rault unless the Joes are plentiful.

S-I 12/15, "U.S.Gang-Buster Will Retire Here." One inference is that Wall is not from N.O. but will stay there. Story does not clarify. My inquiry of Ivon, was he related to the Weebee I dubbed "On The Ball Wall" in O in N.O. negative answer. Exceedingly young to retire, from picture. I could make a guess what firm he'll wind up in, and there are very many there. All those who honored him are farright. Didn't know that Ochsner was MCC head now, too.

Thanks for promptness on Whitehead. I'm not yet out of inexpensive tapes, but the more I can use those already used and not needed, the longer I can hold out. Sometimes they are 33¢ each.

Wall again: isn't it odd he doesn't stay with DJ through JG trial? Sems so.

We agree on the Right to Rule attitude. I think it is now exceeded, as is my earlier designation of The Dedicated Wrong. New game, new league. I think there are two new elements: insanity and determination to establish an authoritarianism. I'd like you to give further thought to whether this is really the traditional Eastern Establishment, which it has been. There have been changes. For example, Wall Street is now no longer unquestioned, if really what it was. For some years the real control has not been by money but by management, I feel. Not rise in market on seemingly firm report of peace, which is not a good thing for the economy, and dip on popping of peace baloon. Madison avenue techniques is a correct way to put it, but not one of the present gang is from the east. I think <u>all</u> are from California. Now when Nixon drew upon a big p.r. outfit, is it not strange that none came from NYC, where he was then based? And all from Calif., which he'd quit? It is more than oil money from Calif and Texas. It is their thinking and their ways. They are much rougher boys, with no moral scruples to bother them or him.

Dorothy Hunt: wrote LF again. The old-timers axed him the guild during negotiations. He was militant leader. Soon thereafter he was reassigned to cover courts, so he has less time for this kind of research. Sent copy your opening graphs. 3rd paper here.

I've jotted a few more notes on the "marked woman" angles. Enclosed or sent.

You make a case for Hunt's belief he has been ditched, but I think he has too much of a hold for it to happen. He was in the W.H., and unless they make a deal with him, he can take too many with him. They'd have nothing to depend upon except his dedication, and having to take a bad rap would tax that. He is jot the type to whom Helms would be attracted. Helms might feel loyalty to one of his old boys, but no more, and I don't think Helms was running Dirty Tricks time Bay Pigs, not sure, though. Again, if as I think he was in domestic intelligence, then that was under Helms and gives him another series of holds. The connections of the lawyers to CIA interests are too strong. I don't think they'd put their lawyers on to asure convictions, and Hunt, McCord and Liddy are not fools, except in their politics. They are tough and know the ropes. And angles and tricks. Rothblatt, I note again, was the one at both Times interviews, and there are many lawyers. Bother interviews atypical and of same character.

I credit stories Helms leaving over not tailoring intelligence reports, summaries. I go farthur and predict we'll learn these were chiefly VN. The whole thing changed with The Pent. Papers. It worked. Even Salandria and Garrison decided CIA now nice guys. CIA smarter. Helms, too.

If I didn't send you copy my Rothblatt/Mrs. Leonard/ CIA Agent Kinset memo, tell me. I will.

I didn't see first leaks Helms leaving in Post but heard on radio about time your first clip. This seemed wrong so I checked. Post had major p.1 story 12/3, or day before Times, and in bulldog edition.

NYT 12/13/72 "Nixon Had Two Aides Fight News Leaks" not as full in some details as Post stories I sent you. Note that while the whole deal was that Hunt was working on checking leaks, Ziegler, as often happens with lies, said he and Liddy "had not been involved in the project" right before the stupid lie that Barker had not called, which you marked.

Please excuse jumping around. Interruptions. The early AP story in S-I, without direct quotes from Anderson (which makes me believe it is early), 12/9, "45 Die..."and I mean not including later nad important direct quotes, accredits him more as a dependable observer, with some knowledge of aviation. This does not avlid his estimates of time, which are not always dependable even from a trained observer. To this day I have seen no reference to any direction of flight other than up and down, not to either side. His description of a stall is a good one and means that and I think nothing else. I have seen no other reference to pilot's log book and think it impossible that he could have made a meaningful entry at the time of the crash and improbable that he entered anything of significance about any kind of trouble he'd not have radioed. I'm waiting and waiting for what the flight recorder, also recovered, shows, as well as conversations with tower. My belief remains that this plane was right on the button except for an effort to change evelation, and I can't understand that so close to the airport. Very close. I've raised this with LF. I've never been to Midway, always O'Hare. I was to have as a kid by my mom wouldn8t let me and that plane also crashed, no survivors. I'd helped the CDN crew rigging radio in a flying gastank Giuseppe Belance had made, the first twin-fuselage job I remember, and that was to have been my reward. (before college.) Now that LF is generally out of the office, it is no longer easy to call him.

Kirkpatrick remarks separate.

Youe comment on hearts-and-flowers beginning NYTimes Hunt interview and straighter end makes much sense. Would it be safe to draw an additional inference, which could also explain the absence of a by-line, that a special reporter was assigned to the "interview"? There is too much about the Times of late that is not easily explained. And no consistency in these questionable treatments.

There is notning about the Carlstead story that makes sense to me. I don't think I've commented on that from this story alone, but think I took them all together to LF, carbons to you.

There is another remarkable "cpincidence" in these interviews. I've noted Rothblatt's seeming service to the CIA in his cases. Now of the 7, only two are interviewed by the Times and by the Times alone. No other interviews anywhere. Who are these two?You are aware I believe them to be Bender and Bernie of The Bay of Pigs. They are Bay of Pigs, in any event. Now, only one is not known to have been. Liddy. I think McCord was the Guatemala communications expert. So, the two policy/boss men on that job in the field, are the only two interviewed, and that synpathetically, by the Times? And it alone? When the Post and LATimes are doing good reporting and the NYT isn't and is best eqyipped to? And Tad Sculz, who from his own reporting should have known better, spread the fiction of the fictitious names, Eduardo and Macho? Soory I've not been able to get into DC and to visit Bernstein or Woodward. They were working out of DC when this story broke, Woodward told me, but no reporting by either or attributable to either has appeared. So, I presume they are still on it. (By the way, no response or acknowledgement from Lawrence, LAT.) They copped out, with public piety, as I think my letter, if sybtly, suggested. No jail. High principle. Missed legal points. Esp. with Anderson's story on plea to be copped.

Oops! 20 minutes into last day of NPR series on VN. Craig on and I'm off for it.

...I have sent you Star's version of Ross's ChiTrib story on Hunt's fake passport. Asked LF for original.

Enough time has elapsed for me to take another look at that Times story, which I'll do later.

Best,